AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins
Issue: ANS-083
Date: 1990-03-24
Sources: amsat-ans-1990-ans-055.01.txt

SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.01
WEBERWARE 1.0 IN BETA TESTING

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 083.01 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 24, 1990
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Weberware 1.0 Satellite Picture Processing S/W Released To Beta Testers

Chris Williams (WA3PSD) of Weber State University reports this week that a few selected radio amateurs will soon receive their Beta test copy of Weberware 1.0. Weberware 1.0 is designed to ta+-V5g3Bi]=KW-KVssq%9-5]m /EESW$V2mT(U)Wu*)' ~and generate a color picture on a EGA or VGA screen using a IBM PC or clone. The reviewers of this complex software package will be looking especially at its user friendliness. Also, they will be examining all its features and looking for any hidden software bugs which might be lurking in the background. While Chris emphasizes that testing Weberware 1.0 will be hard work, it should also provide a lot of excitement as it paints pictures of earth taken by the WO-18 CCD camera. Weberware 1.0 will run only on an IBM PC or clone with either a EGA or VGA CRT.

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Assuming that no major problems are discovered by the Beta testers, radio amateurs can expect to see Weberware 1.0 available from the AMSAT Software Exchange during the last week of April.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.02
V51NAM DX STATION ON AO-13

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 083.02 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 24, 1990
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V51NAM On AO-13 From Namibia Until March 25th

Hans an de Groenendaal (ZS6AKV) reports that on March 20th Namibian radio

amateurs will start to use their newly allocated callsigns as follows:

Old Prefix		New Prefix
ZS3	Full License	V51
ZR3	Restricted VHF License	V50

As part of this change in call signs, special event station Z51NAM will be on AO-13 working as many stations as possible until March 25th. For those who make a contact with V51NAM and would like to QSL, send your QSL card to the:

South African Amateur Radio League
BOX 807
Houghton 2051, South Africa

The SARL will be handling all QSL's on behalf of the Namibian Amateur Radio Society. The President of the Namibian Amateur Radio Society is Derek Moore, ex ZS3DM.

[AMSAT News Service would like to thank ZS6AKV for this information.]

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.03
MAC TLM PROGRAM AVAILABLE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 083.03 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 24, 1990
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MACINTOSH MICROSAT Telemetry Decoding Program Now Available

Jim White (WD0E) reports that his TLMDCMac program is now available from the AMSAT Software Exchange. TLMDCMac is a Macintosh application that decodes telemetry (TLM) from any of the four AMSAT MICROSATs (AO-16, DO-17, WO-18, LO-19). It takes the values that are transmitted by the satellites and transforms them into "engineering values" that indicate how the spacecraft is operating, i.e., the RF power output of the transmitters, temperatures, current being generated from the solar arrays, etc. The telemetry data can be viewed live on the Mac screen during a MICROSAT pass by connection from your TNC to one of the Mac serial ports. You can also record the TLM and read it into TLMDCMac later. Recorded files must be in ASCII text (no KISS) and can be from any source. The program displays the raw TLM data and the decoded values (in Amps, degrees C, etc.) in two separate resizable, movable windows on the Mac screen. Decoded values are displayed in logical groups. It can also, at the user's option, create three separate output files: The raw TLM, the decoded values in a tabular format (probably not available in V1.0), or the decoded values in the SYLK format. The latter can be read into most any spread sheet application for further analysis, charting, etc. Included with the program is a Parameter Converter application for updating the files of parameters used to decode the raw TLM, the parameter files themselves, and a set of EXCEL templates in which data can be pasted into for further analysis. A complete user guide and some sample TLM files are also included. A Mac 512E, Plus, SE, Mac II, or Mac Portable can be used. For further information about the availability of this program, contact the Software Exchange at (301) 589-6062.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.04
AO-13/AO-10 OPERATING SCHED

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 083.04 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 24, 1990
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AO-13 Operating Schedule Effective Until 09-MAY-90

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         Mode-B  : MA 000 to MA 165
         Mode-JL : MA 165 to MA 195
         Mode-S  : MA 195 to MA 200
         Mode-BS : MA 200 to MA 205
         Mode-B  : MA 205 to MA 256
         Omnis   : MA 240 to MA 060

    BLON = 207.6  and  BLAT = 1.1   for 02-Apr-90
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The Mode-B beacon will be ON from MA 195 to MA 200. Only the Mode-S transponder & the Mode-B beacon will be ON from MA 195 to MA 200.

AO-10 is currently experiencing solar eclipses during major portions of it orbit and until further notice its transponder is not available for use.

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SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.05
AO-13 OPERATIONS NET SCHEDULE

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AMSAT-NA Operations Net Schedule Announced

AMSAT Operations Nets are planned for the following times. Mode B nets are conducted on an AO-13 downlink frequency of 145.950 MHz. Mode J/L nets are conducted on an AO-13 downlink frequency of 435.970 MHz. All nets in the current cycle occur on Saturday U.S. time.

Date UTC	Time	Phs	Mode	NCS
01 Apr 90	0400	118	B	N5BF
07 Apr 90	1300	212	B	N5BF
15 Apr 90	0210	168	J/L	N5BF
22 Apr 90	0400	127	B	N5BF
28 Apr 90	1300	221	B	N5BF
06 May 90	0145	168	J/L	N5BF

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.06
DO-17 RECOVERED BY EME STATION

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W5UN's Big EME Station "Gets" DOVE's Attention!

On Saturday, 17-Mar-90 the AMSAT Engineering Team successfully reset the CPU on DO-17 and commanded the 2M transmitter off. Dave Blaschke (W5UN) is the owner of the world's largest privately owned 2 meter antenna and was teamed with Harold Price (NK6K) to overcome the desense problem (DO-17's command receiver is also in the 2M band and the constant "streaming" by the transmitter desensed the command receiver). Even with 32.5 dBi gain, and nearly 2 megawatts of EIRP, it took Dave and Harold several days of transmitting the reset sequence before they were successful.

Alberto Zagni (I2KBD) reported that the transmitter power was dropping significantly at the end of the eclipse portion of the orbit which indicated that the batteries were flattening out. Armed with this information, Bob

McGwier (N4HY) strategized with W5UN as to the two best times to reset the spacecraft CPU and turn the transmitter off. The first was at the end of the eclipse period, when transmitter power would be at its lowest point. However, if it turned out that the battery voltage was too low to maintain the GASFET preamp in the receiver, then the next time to try was just as the transmitter power was falling off (soon after it left the sun and started the voltage descent in eclipse). The latter was the time which turned out to be successful.

Almost immediately following the reset, NK6K uploaded a new set of battery charging commands and transmitter state commands. Early the next morning, Bob commanded the S band transmitter on and the two meter transmitter off. Bill McCaa, K0RZ, successfully copied the S band beacon. The AMSAT Engineering Team is reviewing the events of the last week to determine the failure mode. Once they have completed their investigation, they will upload the operating system for DO-17 and continue its shakedown prior to commissioning. DO-17 is not expected to be fully commissioned until sometime in April.

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SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.07
AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM LOCATION

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Johnson Space Flight Center to Host 1990 AMSAT Symposium

AMSAT has announced that the 1990 AMSAT Space Symposium will be held at NASA's Johnson Space Center near Houston Texas. The dates for the weekend meeting which will be hosted by the Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club, W5RRR, are October 19, 20 and 21.

Registration will open on Friday afternoon at the nearby King's Inn, and tours of the Center will be possible only on Friday and Monday. The tour includes areas such as Mission Control, the Shuttle Mock-up facility as well as the "Zero-G" Tank, a massive swimming pool used to train mission specialists for Shuttle Extra Vehicular Activities (rubber rafts are not allowed and space suits not necessary).

The Symposium will take place on Saturday in the Visitor Center's Main Auditorium. It is sure to be a day packed with talks and presentations on various amateur satellite and related projects. The day will conclude with a Texas-style Bar-B-Que and the AMSAT Banquet.

Many details have still yet to be worked out, but if their schedules allow, Ron Parise (WA4SIR) Mission Specialist on the upcoming STS-35 mission and Ken Cameron (KB5AWP) the Shuttle Pilot on STS-37 will be in attendance. Ken's mission is presently scheduled to be launched approximately two weeks following the annual meeting, so he may have late inside infomration on how he plans to operate during his mission.

Mark your calendar (using a pen) and make plans to attend this year's AMSAT Symposium. This is the "Year of the Amateur Satellite" and if you haven't gotten involved in the Amateur Space program, this would be an excellent way to find out what it is really all about. This is sure to be one of the most exciting Symposiums ever.

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SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-083.08
U6MIR/U7MIR OPERATIONS POSSIBLE

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SILVER SPRING, MD MARCH 24, 1990

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MIR Space Station Amateur Radio Operations Expected To Resume

AMSAT has received information from reliable sources that Soviet cosmonauts Anatoly Soloviev (U6MIR) and Alexander Balandin (U7MIR) may have resumed amateur radio activity from MIR, the Soviet Space Station. They are reported to be transmitting in 2 meter band primarily on 145.50 but may also be found on 145.550 MHz. The most probable time of operation is after 18:00 UTC and any time on weekends.

It was reported that the new radio brought up by the new operators has broken down and that Anatoly and Alexander were using the old equipment left by U2MIR and U4MIR. There are plans to replace the broken rig in the near future, possibly on an unmanned supply mission.

QSLs can be sent via bureau or direct to their QSL manager UW3AX at: P.O.Box 679, MOSCOW 107207, USSR. If you send a card direct, they request an IRC and a self-addressed envelope.

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